

Chorley Rural District Council



ANNUAL
REPORT

for 1937

BY

JOHN RIGBY

M.B. D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

AND BY

Herbert F. Froes

Cert. R. San. Inst., Cert. Inst. San. Engs
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

1938.

10, HIGH STREET,



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TO THE CHORLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I present to you my annual report on the health of the population of your district. No epidemic has invaded the area in spite of the great influx of labourers to the development at Euxton. This has caused great concern to the department, as the workpeople continually coming in and out of the area could easily bring an infection. Those who have remained in the area are filling up the villages and in many instances causing cases of overcrowding. One case of scarlet did arise amongst the workers with the result that a man and his wife were admitted to hospital. The high percentage of adult cases of scarlet is still maintained this year. The source of infection was amongst those who travelled to Ecclestone and accounted for 23% of the cases being above school age. The total number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases is a little less than last year, due to the reduced number of pneumonias.

HOUSING.

The progress of building in the area has increased the number of houses from 6,860 to 7,126. The increase has made it imperative that the sewerage extensions and improvements which have so long been contemplated should be taken in hand and completed as soon as possible. With the sinking of the special expenses rate into the general rate these large undertakings will be able to be carried out without undue burden to the individual township.

The abatement of overcrowding is progressing in a satisfactory manner, as shown by the Sanitary Inspector's report, but a difficulty is experienced in obtaining the notification of the movements of the families in order to keep the records up-to-date.

FARMS.

The number of milk producing farms has increased by 15, so that there are now 358 in the district. The standard of cleanliness is generally maintained, and many have completely reorganised their shippens in order to qualify as producers of accredited milk. Fresh milk is still supplied to the school children and advantage of this arrangement has been taken by 27 out of the 31 schools.

POPULATION.

The estimated number of residents in the area is 24,130, an increase of 70 on the previous year's estimate of 24,060. As the number of births exceed the deaths by 39 it is considered that there has been a small influx of people who have taken up permanent residence. There has been an increase of 266 houses to accommodate this increase of 70 in the population, which ought to decrease the number of cases of overcrowding. The number of persons in proportion to the number of house in the district is now $3 \frac{1}{3}$ rd to each house.

BIRTH RATE.

There has been a total of three hundred and fifty-four births (354). On hundred and eighty-two (182) have been of boys, and one hundred and seventy-two (172) of girls. This is an increase of thirty-two (32) on the previous year. Six illegitimate children have been born, two boys and four girls. The number is the same as last year's.

The rate is 14.6 per thousand of population, bringing it more to the average of England than in previous years.

The figures are:—

Average for 1937 . . .	14.6	per thousand population
Average for 1936 . . .	13.3	per thousand population
Average for 1935 . . .	12.7	per thousand population
Average for England	14.9	per thousand population

DEATH RATE.

The deaths have numbered three hundred and fifteen (315). Of these one hundred and thirty-eight (138) have been of males and one hundred and seventy-seven (177) of females. This is an increase of 36 on the number last year. The death rate is 13.0 per thousand of population, an increase on that of the previous year.

The figures are:—

Average for 1937 . . .	13.0	per thousand population
Average for 1936 . . .	11.5	per thousand population
Average for 1935 . . .	11.1	per thousand population
Average for England	12.4	per thousand population

The causes of death have been tabulated in Table I, showing the total number of persons usually resident in this area who have died.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The deaths of children under one year of age, shows a marked decrease. There have been only nine (9) compared with the twenty (20) of the previous year. These nine consist of six (6) boys and three (3) girls. It is very pleasing to see the rate so low, as it is little consolation to have the birth rate rising and yet the children die during their first year of life. The Child Welfare administration is under the control of the Lancashire County Council in this area and conducted by the Assistant School Medical Officer and the District Visiting Nurses. The School Medical Officer holds a Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic at Chorley and Coppull, and the District Visitors, who are informed of every birth, pay a visit to the case and keep those under observation where necessary.

The figure for England is 58 compared with 59 for the previous year.

The figures are:—

Average for 1937 . . . 25 per thousand births.

Average for 1936 . . . 62 per thousand births.

Average for 1935 . . . 42 per thousand births.

Average for England 58 per thousand births.

THE ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

The deaths from the Zymotic diseases have been nil.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Towards the end of the year a survey of all the reported cases of tuberculosis was carried out. It showed that there were 31 persons certified as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and 45 persons suffering from other forms of tuberculosis other than pulmonary, residing in the area.

There have been twenty-four (24) cases of tuberculosis reported during the year. Ten (10) of the pulmonary type and fourteen (14) of the non-pulmonary type. Two non-pulmonary cases have left the area. Of the nine available pulmonary cases, eight have received institutional treatment, one died at the time of notification and one aged 61 years remained at home. Of the fourteen (14) non-pulmonary cases five (5) have required institutional treatment, and two (2) have died.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of cases notified have been Scarlet Fever, 68; Diphtheria, 7; Suspected Enteric, 1; Pneumonia, 23; Erysipelas, 5. In the case of the suspected enteric which was admitted to hospital for isolation the diagnosis was not confirmed. Sixteen cases of scarlet fever were nursed at home as the accommodation was suitable and the houses were situated where isolation could be carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. The abnormal number of pneumonia includes seventeen cases which occurred in the Coppull and Charnock Richard area during the first three months of the year. They were of the influenza type and consequently very infectious. We had sixteen cases of death from influenza during the year.

The case rate for scarlet fever in this area is 2.77 per thousand of population. This compares with the figures of 2.5 for last year's and 2.33 as the figure given for England. We had no deaths from this disease.

The case rate for diphtheria in the area is .29 per thousand of the population. This compares with the figures of .41 for last year and 1.49 as the figure given for England. There were no deaths.

The examination of pathological specimens is still carried out by the Clinical Research Association. It has been necessary to submit 27 specimens of sputum and 10 throat-swabs for examination. Diphtheria antitoxin is always available for prophylactic treatment of contacts or for suspected cases of diphtheria. Four phials of 8,000 units strength have been used.

The closure of schools to prevent the spread of infection has taken place more frequently this year than is usual. Application has been made in ten instances. Once for scarlet, three times for measles and six times for outbreaks of influenzal colds.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There has been a reduction in the number of slaughter houses. The number now is 12 and they have been kept in a satisfactory state of cleanliness. The bye-law in respect to the use of a humane slaughtering instrument was made

applicable to all animals during the year and this has induced most slaughtering to be done at a slaughterhouse, the applications for occasional slaughter being greatly reduced in number.

WATER.

The water obtainable at the Thirlmere aqueduct has been clear and adequate, but the supply in the townships at some distance from the aqueduct has in many cases been limited. Everything is being done to augment the supply and the benefit from the new 15 inch main to Euxton is anticipated will overcome this shortage, which is now due to the large quantity of water at present required for the building operations of the Royal Ordnance Factory at Euxton. The laying of the main at Mawdesley is practically completed, when that township will then be supplied with water.

SCAVENGING.

During the year a resolution was carried that all the townships should have the benefit of scavenging instead of the limited number of 11 who had adopted it. Contracts have now been entered into for this work to be done. Coppull and Charnock Richard are still scavenged by motor and direct labour.

The scheme for the improvement of the sewerage of Clayton and Whittle is progressing. Arrangements have been made for the effluent from Lancaster Lane and Wigan Lane areas to be treated in the Leyland sewerage scheme, and a scheme is before the Council for the laying of pipes to take the effluent from Preston Road and Town Lane to our own sewerage works.

The effluent from the Royal Ordnance Factory at Euxton is to be treated at the Chorley sewerage works, and a large pipe for that purpose is being laid. Advantage of this cutting has been taken to lay another pipe alongside which will be able to take all the effluent for the township of Euxton, which will eventually be drained into it; a scheme which was suggested by the Ministry in preference to organising a sewerage works in the neighbourhood of Euxton.

Some of the sewerage works in the Western Area are not adequate to deal with the increased quantity of sewage and it has been suggested that instead of spending on the repairs and enlargements some scheme of grouping and the

treatment at one large centre should be investigated. Such a scheme would reduce our cost of scavenging as many conversions to water closets would take place if the effluent could be treated.

When the work of the year is reviewed it will be noted that some of the large schemes which on account of their size have been put aside year after year, but finally put into operation. It will be gratifying to see continued progress taking place. The improvements which still await to be done are also of large dimensions and expensive, but when completed will be a lasting benefit to the District.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. RIGBY,

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY OF TUBERCULOSIS IN 1937

Ages	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 - 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5-10	...	..	3	...	...	...	...	...
10-15	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...
15-20	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20-25	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
25-35	2	2	1	1	...	...	...	...
35-45	...	2	2	2	...	...	...	1
45-55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55-65	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
65—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	5	5	7	7	1	0	0	2
	10		14		1		2	

DEATHS OF RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1937.
ARRANGED UNDER CAUSE, AGE, AND SUB-DISTRICT.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Age Groups.						Sub-Districts.							
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Chorley.	Brindle.	Croston.	Leyland.	Rivington.
Typhoid Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Measles ...	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Influenza	16	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	10	7	1	5	2	1
Phthisis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases	4	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	1	1	1	..	..
Cancer	41	..	..	..	..	..	7	16	18	15	5	10	8	3
Cerebral Hemorrhage	19	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	12	5	4	4	3	3
Heart Diseases	103	..	..	..	..	..	10	26	67	16	12	36	29	10
Arterio-sclerosis	25	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	20	5	..	14	2	4
Bronchitis	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	3	2	2	1	1
Pneumonia	12	2	1	1	..	1	..	1	6	7	2	..	1	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Appendicitis	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	1	1	..
Nephritis	10	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	5	4	..	3	2	1
Diseases of pregnancy	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Cong. Debility	6	6	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	3	1	2	3	..
Accidents	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	2	2	4	8
Suicides ...	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	2	14	1	..
Defined Diseases	44	..	1	..	..	..	4	13	26	12	6	..	4	..
Ill-defined Diseases	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	3	..	1
Diabetes ...	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	2	..	..	..	..
Meningitis ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	315	9	2	1	..	2	37	84	180	87	37	96	60	35

THE DISTRIBUTION OF SCARLET FEVER

Townships.	Jan.	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Anderton	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	7
Anglezarke	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Bretherton	1
Brindle	1	3	..	1	..	0
Charnock Richard	5
Clayton-le-Woods	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	3
Coppull	1	2	1	4	1	..	2	1	..	..	12
Croston	1	..	..	..	..	3	4	2	10
Cuerden	1	1	3
Eccleston	1	..	1	4	2	..	1	3	12
Euxton	3	..	..	..	..	3
Heapey	1	..	..	1
Heath Charnock	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Heskin.....	0
Hoghton	0
Mawdesley.....	0
Rivington	1	..	..	..	..	..	0
Ulnes Walton	1	2	1	..	..	..	1
Wheulton	1	..	..	..	..	5
Whittle-le-Woods	1	0
TOTALS	2	1	2	3	5	5	5	11	8	6	11	9	68

CHORLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

To the Chairman and Members of the Chorley Rural District
Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I beg to present a brief survey of the work of the Public Health Department during the year ended December, 1937.

To facilitate reference I have divided my report, as usual, into Sections so that any member may at once be able to refer to any particular class of work in which he may be interested.

SECTION I.

HOUSING AND OVERCROWDING.

Legislation.

On the First day of January, 1937, there came into force the new Housing Act, 1936.

This Act repeals the Housing Acts from 1909 to the more recent Acts of 1930 and 1935 with the exception of a few Sections that are still retained in the respective Acts.

Housing and Standard of Fitness.

In judging whether houses are unfit for occupation a general standard of fitness should be decided upon as a minimum basis and houses that fall short of, or cannot be made to conform to, that standard must be condemned.

This standard will vary considerably in various districts

The requirements of the thickly populated County Boroughs, Boroughs, and large Urban Districts are, in many respects, different to those of a Rural District.

Even in Rural Districts there can be no uniformity, as some are very congested and densely populated, while others are the reverse; some have all the facilities of a Town to offer in respect to sewers, water supplies and other public services, while others are sadly lacking in this respect.

In our Rural District, and others, this lack of uniformity extends to the Townships and consequently definite uniform requirements cannot be fixed but each individual house must be judged on its merits and the amenities available.

The demolition of property means a pecuniary loss to the owner and therefore must not be entered upon without due consideration.

On the other hand, living in unfit and unhealthy houses may mean injury or loss of health to the tenants — a far greater evil than any pecuniary loss.

In inspecting houses regarding which there is no question of condemnation consideration is given as to whether the houses are being kept in a reasonable state of repair.

Type of Houses.

The houses of the Chorley Rural District may be classified as follows:—

- (a) Better class houses (Modern).
- (b) Artisan dwellings (Modern).
- (c) Artisan dwellings (Older type).
- (d) Dwellings with shops attached.
- (e) Cottages. (Rural type).
- (f) Farm houses.
- (g) Caravans and other temporary dwellings.

Accommodation.

The older type of dwellings, although sound in structure, are generally lacking the amenities of those of more recent construction. The accommodation generally consists of living room, scullery, and sometimes a parlour with from two to three bedrooms.

In quite a number of cases the stairs open into the first bedroom, depriving it of privacy and making it draughty and cold during certain portions of the year.

The majority of these houses are without bathrooms and sometimes without larders.

The closets in many cases are on the conservancy system.

Wash-houses, too, are often lacking, the boilers being fixed in the house and on washing days fill the premises with steam.

To remedy this nuisance tenants erect a wash-house, very often constructed of wood, in their backyards, and by so doing encroach upon the open space required by our building bye-laws.

Houses Demolished.

During the year the following condemned houses were demolished, the tenants having the previous year been accommodated in houses erected by the Council for that purpose:—

Coppull

9, 11, 13, 15, 17, and 19, Birkacre Brow.
 23, Chapel Lane.
 45, 47, 49, and 51, Spendmore Lane W.
 41, 43, and 45, Preston Road.

Croston

40, and 42, Grape Lane.
 4, and 6, Hillock Cottages.
 70, 70a, 123, and 125, Station Road.

Heath Charnock

1, 2, and 3, Londonderry Cottages.

Demolition Order.

Under a Demolition Order, issued September 7th, 1937, the house known as 2, Clancutt Lane, in the Township of Coppull, has to be vacated by the 31st March, 1938, and demolished within six weeks after that date.

The alternative accommodation has been provided for the present tenant, A. Hart, at 4, Clancutt Lane, vacated for that purpose by Thomas Trafford, to whom has been allocated a house belonging to this Council.

The condemned and the vacated house, respectively, belong the same owner, and it was at his request that the present arrangement was arrived at.

Cottages Closed.

(a) Cottage, Town Brow, Clayton-le-Woods.

This cottage, belonging to Mr. Whitehead, has, at our instigation, been voluntarily closed as unfit for human habitation.

(b) Marsden Square (2 Cottages), Wheelton.

These cottages, constructed of stone, are situated in a court at the rear of the Golden Lion Inn. The living kitchens are only 6' 6" in height, there is no proper drainage and no back doors or yard space at the rear. The owner, Mr. Ainsworth Fowler, has given a written undertaking not to again use these cottages for human habitation unless, at some future date, improvements and repairs are carried out to the satisfaction of this Council.

Caravans and Dwellings of Similar Type.

Our Council has adopted a policy of opposition to the further establishing of such dwellings in this district.

In respect to those already in existence they are each year being gradually abolished.

This year we opposed the further occupation of a Caravan that had become vacated in North Road, Bretherton, and in consequence it has been removed from our district.

In addition a dwelling constructed from obsolete railway carriages, situated at New Manor Avenue, Charnock Richard, became vacated by a family named Dodd and was at once demolished.

Legal Aspect in Respect to These Dwellings.

Under Section 23 of the Housing Act, 1936, sections 9 to 17 of the same Act are applicable to such structures when they have been in the same enclosure for a period of two years.

Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, gives power to a local authority to control the use of moveable dwellings by granting licences:—

- (1) Authorising persons to allow land to be used for that purpose.
- (2) Authorising persons to erect, station or use such dwellings within the district.

No such licence, however, is required in respect to a moveable dwelling:—

- (a) Kept by owner on land in connection with his dwelling and used for habitation by him or members of his household.
- (b) Kept by its owner on Agricultural land and used at certain periods of the year for housing persons employed in farming operations.
- (c) To movable dwellings not occupied but merely stored.

Housing, Rural Workers' Act.

In our district no grants have been made during the year. We have not a large number of married farm labourers and it was for this class of worker that the Act was first initiated. Its application, however, has been considerably extended.

Council Houses.

In this Rural District the Local Authority have constructed Two Hundred and Fifty-two Houses which are situated as follows:—

Charnock Richard	18
Clayton-le-Woods	6
Coppull	138
Croston	9
Eccleston	17
Euxton	22
Heath Charnock	3
Heskin	8
Hoghton	8
Mawdesley	8
Wheelton	4
Whittle-le-Woods	11

OVERCROWDING.

DIFFICULTIES IN DEALING WITH OVERCROWDING.

The Council Houses as they become vacant are utilised, where possible, for the relief of overcrowding.

My experience in dealing with these cases is that many overcrowded families are very reluctant to avail themselves of the houses offered. Some parents with a grown-up family argue that when their children marry and leave home, the overcrowding will be abated without the said parents having to sacrifice their present abode which will suit them so admirably for their old age.

In some cases the family prefer to live in their overcrowded condition for the sake of economy or because they have an affection for their present environment where they have been born and bred.

Again, families will refuse to move because they cannot have a particular house or object to live next door to a certain person.

It is the limit when a local authority have to build houses and then take legal proceedings to compel them to be occupied by the class of persons for whom they are intended.

OVERCROWDING CONDITIONS AT THE END OF THE YEAR, 1937.

Our first housing record in respect to overcrowding relates to its proportions at the end of 1935.

For its compilation 5,100 householders had to be circularised with the result that we ascertained that on the night of the 31st December, 1935, there were 95 houses overcrowded under the Housing Act of that year.

This record twelve months later had to be checked by circularisation for the night of the 31st December, 1936, as in our District after that date Subsequent Overcrowding

became a Statutory Nuisance for the abatement of which the occupiers or owners are liable.

In respect to the overcrowding cases then existing on that particular date, no action can be taken by us unless first suitable accommodation is offered and refused.

The figures of this last overcrowding survey reveal **thirty-four cases abated and thirty-four additional cases discovered during the year, making a total of ninety-five overcrowded houses on the 31st of December, 1936.**

This total is the same as on the 31st December, 1935, the cases abated during 1936 being negated by the additions.

We therefore begin the First of January, 1937, with **ninety-five legitimate cases of overcrowding** to be abated, and the knowledge that any **subsequent cases of overcrowding** except those caused by birth increase may be dealt with as **Statutory Nuisances.**

How we have progressed during this last year the following particulars will show:—

Township	Existing Overcrowded cases on 31st Dec. 1936.	Overcrowded cases abated during 1937	Existing Overcrowded cases on 31st Dec. 1937.
Anderton	3	1	2
Anglezarke	—	—	—
Bretherton	2	1	1
Brindle	4	1	3
Charnock Richard .	5	3	2
Clayton-le-Woods ..	2	—	2
Coppull	15	4	11
Croston	17	10	7
Cuerden	6	5	1
Eccleston	6	3	3
Euxton	8	3	5
Heapey	2	1	1
Heath Charnock ..	4	2	2
Heskin	4	—	4
Hoghton	4	4	—
Mawdesley	2	—	2
Rivington	—	—	—
Ulnes Walton	—	—	—
Wheelton	2	1	1
Whittle-le-Woods ..	9	6	3
	95	45	50

We ascertain from the figures just given that during the year 1937, just concluded, forty-five cases of overcrowding were abated, reducing our **existing overcrowding to Fifty Houses**, equal to nearly a 50 per cent. reduction on the number ninety-five houses with which we commenced the year.

The Abatements of the forty-five overcrowded cases may be enumerated under the following headings:—

- | | |
|--|----|
| (a) Removals to one or other of our Council Houses | 7 |
| (b) Families decreasing in numbers and ceasing to be overcrowded | 17 |
| (c) Families on their own initiative removing from overcrowded houses | 15 |
| (d) Increased accommodation permitting the family tenantry the house now to do so without overcrowding | 6 |

Some of the Evils of Overcrowding.

- (a) It tends to increase the infantile mortality rate.
- (b) Predisposes persons to Pulmonary Tuberculosis by the spread of spray infection from mouth or nose owing to the proximity of inmates to one another.
- (c) It encourages thriftlessness owing to the hopeless living condition.

Difficulties of Keeping Overcrowding Records.

To keep in constant touch with all overcrowding is a very difficult problem.

Housing registers might more easily be kept up-to-date if owners were compelled to notify the Health Authorities whenever the house changed tenants.

New houses are also liable to be purchased and occupied before they are discovered to be overcrowded.

Final Remarks on Overcrowding.

Although we show a good reduction in the number of overcrowded cases during the year just ended, it must be remembered that these figures only relate to the overcrowding existing on the 31st December, 1936, the date of our last circularisation of the district.

Since then other cases may have occurred of which we are ignorant.

At this stage I do not advise the district to be again circularised; as owing to the construction of the Royal Ordnance Factory at Euxton, housing is in a very chaotic condition.

Numerous workmen, "birds of passage," have to be temporarily provided with lodgings.

Houses are being constructed by private enterprise in large numbers and Lay-Out Plans for colonies of houses in Euxton and other townships are being submitted.

To accurately judge our housing requirements we must wait until the district becomes more normal and we are possessed of conclusive evidence that private enterprise is not likely to satisfy our housing needs.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	266
(i) By the Local Authority	Nil
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	266
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:	
(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above)	Nil
(ii) by other bodies or persons included under (a) (iii) above	Nil

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	253
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	378
(2) (a) Number of Dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	130
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	246
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation (including a Caravan)	4
(4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	123

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the **Local Authority** or their officers 116

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By Owners Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 9

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By Owners 9

(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 25

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding:—

(a) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	50
Number of persons dwelling therein	408
Number of families dwelling therein	51
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	45
Number of persons concerned in such cases	307

SECTION II.**MILK PRODUCTION.****The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.**

Under this order the designation "Grade A" is abolished and the title "Accredited Milk" is substituted.

Accredited Producers and Retailing.

It must be noted that not all farmers on the Accredited Roll are entitled to retail milk under the designation "Accredited" but only those who, in addition to the Ordinary Producer's Licence, possess a special Bottling Licence.

In other words retailers with only a Producer's Licence have to sell their accredited milk with no other description than ordinary milk.

If such farmer has his van labelled "Accredited Milk" he would be violating the order. He holds no advantage over the ordinary Retail Farmer except so much as he obtains from the Milk Marketing Board, a penny extra for every gallon of milk he produces.

LIST OF FARMERS UNDER THE ORDER.**(a) Sellers of Tuberculin Tested Milk.**

Pantall, F. E., Ridgewood Farm, Heath Charnock.
Sagar, S. H., Heskin Hall Farm, Heskin.
Lord, Bros., Barracks Farm, Hoghton.

(b) Farmers Holding "Accredited Producers" and Bottling Licences.

Cartmell, R. H., Townhouse Farm, Brindle.
Dandy, W., Carvers Farm, Croston.
Horwich Co-operative Society, Anderton Hall Farm, Anderton.
Johnson, H., Clock House Farm, Cuerden.
Lord, J. R., Oram House Farm, Brindle.

Norris, W. C., Cunliffe Farm, Anderton.
 Parkinson, R., Swansey Farm, Whittle-le-Woods.
 Jones, W., Woodcock House Farm, Eccleston.
 Scambler, J., Harbour Farm, Wheelton.
 Smith, E. J., White Coppice Farm, Anglezarke.
 Smith, R., Calderbank Farm, Charnock Richard.

(c) Farmers Holding "Accredited Producers" Licences Only

Bentham, Mrs. E., Ashcroft Farm, Bretherton.
 Baines, H., Moss Farm, Bretherton.
 Mackereth, J. E., Springfield Farm, Bretherton.
 Hill, John, Bank Hall Farm, Bretherton.
 Jump, J. (Junr.), Church House Farm, Bretherton.
 Crompton, R., Bateson Farm, Brindle.
 Marginson, T. H., Head o'th' Marsh Farm, Brindle.
 Rawcliffe, G., Millstone Farm, Brindle.
 Livesey, W. & J., Jack Green Farm, Brindle .
 Cartmell, J., Moss Farm, Brindle.
 Park, Mrs. M. A., Leigh Farm, Brindle.
 Bethell, W., Huggarts Farm, Brindle.
 Shuttleworth, W., Walmsley Fold Farm, Brindle.
 Trekeld, A., Hatchwood Farm, Brindle.
 Gatty, J. V. H., Whiteholme Farm, Brindle.
 Lamb, Mrs. E., Windmill Farm, Brindle.
 Scott, Allen, Tan House Farm, Charnock Richard.
 Heaps, G., Charnock House Farm, Charnock Richard.
 Alty, R., New Park Hall Farm, Charnock Richard.
 Cowburn, W., Yew Tree Farm, Charnock Richard.
 Sowerbutts, J., Iddon House Farm, Charnock Richard.
 Heaton, H., Lancaster House Farm, Charnock Richard.
 Leyland, J., Mawdsley Farm, Charnock Richard.
 Hebblethwaite, R., Woodcocks Farm, Clayton-le-Woods.
 Gill, J., Fowlers Farm, Clayton-le-Woods.
 Dutton, J. B., Crook Fold Farm, Coppull.
 Riding, A., Moss House Farm, Coppull.
 Dickinson, H., Orchard Heys Farm, Coppull.
 Riding, H., Green Lane Farm, Coppull.
 Taylor, W., Bridge End Farm, Croston.
 Ashton, J., Home Farm, Croston.
 Forshaw Bros., Manor House Farm, Croston.
 Walmsley, J. W., Bottoms Farm, Cuerden.
 Platt, J. E., Ingrave Farm, Eccleston.
 Sumner, J., Bradley Hall Farm, Eccleston.
 Aspinall, W. H., Towngate Farm, Eccleston.

Robinson, F., Peacock Farm, Euxton.
 Grimshaw, G., Runshaw Moor Farm, Euxton.
 Calderbank, F., Woodcock Fold Farm, Euxton.
 Mortimer, Mrs. J. H., Stansfield House Farm, Euxton.
 Derbyshire J., Kays Farm, Heath Charnock.
 Brownlow, S., Blindhurst Farm, Heath Charnock.
 Hunter, W., Craggs Farm, Heskin.
 Coar, F., Anderton Fold Farm, Hoghton.
 Rushton, W. F., Dover Farm, Hoghton.
 Rushton, T. A., Green Farm, Hoghton.
 Barton, W. J., Causeway Farm, Hoghton.
 Cross, J. T., Horrobin Farm, Hoghton.
 Rawcliffe, Mrs. M., Blackmoor Hall Farm, Mawdesley.
 Forrest, P. G. & Sons, Mawdesley Hall Farm, Mawdesley.
 Gregson, Mrs. F., Slate Farm, Mawdesley.
 Cummings, P., Home Farm, Mawdesley.
 Marsden, G. W., Tootles Farm, Mawdesley.
 Wrennall, J., Culshaws Farm, Ulmes Walton.
 Holding, J., Denzies Farm, Ulmes Walton.
 Collinson, J. W. & R. P., Rutters Farm, Ulmes Walton.
 Glover, E., Low Moss Farm, Ulmes Walton.
 Deacon, J. (Junr.), Boys Farm, Ulmes Walton.
 Townsend, J. H., Johnson House Farm, Ulmes Walton.
 Monks, H., Marl Pitts Farm, Wheelton.
 Hodge, H., Triggs Farm, Wheelton.
 Scambler, R., Rawlinson Fold Farm, Wheelton.
 Scambler, T. M., Morris Fold Farm, Wheelton.
 Johnston, J., Brinscall Hall Farm, Wheelton.
 Moffatt, M., Spout House Farm, Wheelton.

(d) Pasteurised Milk.

We have no producers in our district. A supplementary Licence is issued from our Council to the Chorley Co-operative Society, who retail in the Township of Coppull.

FARMS IN GENERAL.

The following table gives, for each Township, the number of (a) Ordinary Dairy Farms; (b) Farms under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 (abbreviated "M.S.D.O." Farms).

Township.	Ordinary. Dairy Farms.	M.S.D.O. Farms.	Total.
Anderton	10	2	12
Anglezarke	—	1	1
Bretherton	12	5	17
Brindle	28	13	41
Charnock Richard	23	8	31
Clayton-le-Woods	14	2	16
Coppull	16	5	21
Croston	10	4	14
Cuerden	10	2	12
Eccleston	14	4	18
Euxton	27	5	32
Heapey	15	—	15
Heath Charnock	13	3	16
Heskin	10	2	12
Hoghton	12	6	18
Mawdesley	10	5	15
Rivington	3	—	3
Ulnes Walton	13	6	19
Wheelton	14	7	21
Whittle-le-Woods	23	1	24
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	277	81	358
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

GENERAL REMARKS.

On the whole our farms are conducted in a very creditable manner. Each year new cowsheds and dairies are being constructed and existing buildings remodelled. I am pleased to note that these improvements do not limit themselves to farms, registered by us, as places where milk is produced for selling purposes. Other farmers, such as stock breeders, etc. are interesting themselves in this respect.

The old fallacy that good buildings are only required for milch cows is now exploded. Bovines, of whatever class, if constantly kept herded together in low, badly ventilated and insanitary sheds are ripe to infect one another if infectious disease is introduced into such a nursery.

Another matter I wish to mention concerns farmers who are engaged in Wholesale Production, their milk being collected and conveyed to its destination by road transport and the empty churns returned in the same manner. On no account should churns, either full or empty, be deposited at

the side of the footpath on the highway, or in any place where the outside of the churns are liable to become contaminated by passing dogs.

If they are deposited the churns must be on a raised platform so constructed of such a height as to guard against this eventuality.

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT ON OUR VARIOUS FARMS DURING THE YEAR.

ANDERTON.

Anderton Hall Farm.—Sterilising Room reconditioned.

BRETHERTON.

Jumps Farm.—Old disused cowshed reconditioned. New Floor, etc.

BRINDLE.

Windmill Farm.—Cowshed, extra lighting provided, Floors reconditioned. New Dairy, Sterilising Room and Boiler House erected.

Leigh Farm.—The existing Cowsheds reconditioned. A building has been converted into Dairy and Sterilising Room.

Calverts Farm.—Extra lighting in Cowshed has been provided.

High Cop Farm.—Old Cowshed with loft over, has been entirely remodelled.

CHARNOCK RICHARD.

Heaton House Farm.—Existing Cowsheds reconditioned.

CLAYTON-LE-WOODS.

Morris Fold Farm.—New Cowshed erected.

Lower Wood End Farm.—Cowshed reconditioned and Thirlmere Water laid on.

COPPULL.

Highfield Farm.—An existing Cowshed extended so as to afford increased accommodation.

Moor House Farm.—Existing Cowshed remodelled. Existing Building converted into Dairy.

EUXTON.

Boarded Barn Farm.—New Cowshed erected.

HOGHTON.

Straits Farm.—New Cowshed erected.

MAWDESLEY.

Tootells Farm.—Existing Cowsheds reconditioned. New Dairy and Sterilising Room erected.

ULNES WALTON.

Nixon Farm.—Existing Cowshed remodelled.

Windy Harbour Farm.—Existing Cowshed remodelled.
Existing Building converted into Dairy.

Beconsalls Farm.—Existing Cowshed remodelled. New Cowshed erected.

Lowe Farm.—New Cowshed, Dairy and Sterilising Room erected.

Culshaws Farm.—Existing Cowsheds reconditioned by cementing walls at rear of cows and repairing the floors. Extra roof lighting provided. New Dairy erected.

SECTION III.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Slaughter Houses.

During the year the number of our slaughter houses have decreased from fourteen to twelve, and are situated as follows:—

Township.	Proprietor and Situation.
Anderton	Stephen Finch, 1, Babylon Lane.
Brindle	James Rigby, Oak Bank, Gregson Lane.
Coppull	James Draper & Son, 45, Chapel Lane.
Coppull	Walter Morris, 106, Spendmore Lane W.
Croston	James Sumner, Station Road.
Croston	Robert Tuson, Town Road.
Croston	Hugh N. Whittle, Town Road.
Clayton-le-Woods	Richard Waring, Windfield Farm.
Eccleston	Preston McLeod, Preston Nook.
Euxton	Fred Haydock, Holt Farm.
Heapey	Herbert Cowburn, Kenyon Farm.
Heskin	Sydney Green, Cooper Allotments.

Of the two slaughter houses that were discontinued one, situated at Higher Fold Farm, Heapey, was used by Robert Hardman, who has now retired from business, the other, at Littlewood Hall Farm, Ulmes Walton, was discontinued on the premises changing hands.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

This Act came into force on the First of January, 1934, under which all cattle before slaughter had to be stunned by a mechanically operated instrument, but in respect to sheep, etc. the Council had the option of adoption or otherwise.

Although the Council failed at the passing of the Act to extend its application to sheep, etc. this year the omission has been rectified by our Council sanctioning this extension.

Under this Act also, all slaughter-men have to be licensed by a Local Authority, the licence being operative for a term not exceeding three years. In this district we issue licences which have to be renewed annually, but as no fee is charged there is no hardship to those concerned and gives the Council greater control.

A licence issued by a Local Authority is not only available in their district, but also in the district of any other Local Authority. We have on our books at the present time Fourteen Slaughter-men.

Scheme for a Private Slaughter-house Abandoned.

Early in the year we received an application from a butcher, Roger Haydock, who wished to transfer his slaughtering from premises in the West Lancashire Rural District to Harbour Farm, Bretherton, where he resides.

On inspecting the building proposed to be used as a Slaughter-house we found that without extensive alterations it was quite unsuitable for that purpose.

As the applicant was unable to execute the work required the scheme was abandoned to the satisfaction of the Bretherton Parish Council who were strongly opposed to the establishment of a Slaughter-house in the centre of their rural village.

Shops.

Under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1934 made by the Minister of Health under the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act, 1907, all shops in which meat is sold, including bacon and ham, have to be registered and comply with certain regulations as to cleanliness and proper storage.

These regulations aim, in a practical manner at the protection of meat from flies and other contamination.

The number of inspections made in the last twelve months is 26, and the violations dealt with six.

Unsound Meat.

During the year we have found unfit for human consumption and had destroyed:—

All diseases except Tuberculosis:—

	Cows	Sheep	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned	2	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	3	4
Tuberculosis only:—			
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	—	6

SECTION IV. WATER SUPPLY.

Source and Distribution.

The following townships are wholly or partly supplied with water by the Corporation of Manchester through the Thirlmere Aqueduct:—

Anderton, Anglezarke, Bretherton, Charnock Richard, Clayton-le-Woods, Coppull, Croston, Eccleston, Euxton, Heapey, Heath Charnock, Heskin, Ulnes Walton, Wheelton and Whittle-le-Woods.

This water is distributed through the townships of the Western Area by gravitation, assisted by a booster plant in the township of Euxton.

In Anderton and Heath Charnock the supply, before distribution by gravitation, has to be pumped into a reservoir situated in Anderton.

This also pertains in respect to the townships of Heapey, Wheelton, Whittle-le-Woods, Clayton-le-Woods and part of Anglezarke, the reservoir being situated at Heapey.

Brindle has for a part of the township a water supply inaugurated by private enterprise. In the northern portion, where there is a colony of about seventy houses, the supply is obtained from the mains of the Walton-le-Dale Urban District Council.

In the township of Hoghton most of the houses are supplied with spring water belonging the Hoghton estate.

On the Eastern area a row of property obtain their supply through the Blackburn Corporation and on the Northern area a few houses are similarly supplied through Preston Rural District mains.

The township of Rivington contains the reservoirs and gathering grounds of the Liverpool Corporation who supply with water the few dwellings that exist.

The township of Cuerden is supplied with water partly by a scheme belonging the Cuerden estate and partly from mains belonging the Walton-le-Dale Urban District Council.

The township of Mawdesley, which has at the present time to depend on wells and springs, will be provided, next year, with a public water supply by the extension of the Council's mains from Eccleston to that village.

When the diameter of our water mains to Euxton was increased to supply the Royal Ordnance Factory with water the Mawdesley scheme also was provided for.

SECTION V.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Sanitary Conveniences.

The number of Sanitary Conveniences in the Chorley Rural District is approximately as follows:—

Privy Middens	822
Number of Closets attached to these Middens	2089
Number of Pail Closets	2118
Number of Fresh Water Closets	2908
Number of Waste Water Closets	10
Number of Ash Bins	4779
Number of Dry Ash Pits	93

During the year 52 Privy Closets have been abolished, 29 being converted to Fresh Water Closets and 23 to Pail Closets.

In each case a movable Sanitary Ash Bin has been provided for house refuse.

Also three Waste Water Closets have been converted to Fresh Water Closets.

Collection.

At the present time Public Scavenging is only being carried out in eleven of our twenty townships, but after the end of this year it is to be extended to every township in our rural district and becomes chargeable on the General Rate instead of each parish having to defray the cost of its own scavenging out of Special Expenses.

The Council have decided that for the ensuing fifteen months, that is until the 1st April, 1939, they will do the work by contract and have advertised and accepted Tenders accordingly.

The following Table gives the Contract prices accepted, for the coming year together with the name of the Contractor.

Township.	Price per annum.	Contractor.
Anderton and Heath Charnock (combined)	£270	Richard Morris.
Rivington	£52	Richard Morris.
Bretherton	£105	J. Spencer & Sons.
Brindle (with addition of 10/- per new house)	£165	E. J. Greenway.
Clayton-le-Woods	£125	W. Nickson, Junr.
Cuerden	£35	W. Nickson, Junr.
Croston	£260	T. Clayton.
Eccleston } (Four townships Euxton } combined. Extra Heskin } remuneration for Ulnes Walton } new houses)	£600	H. Shuttleworth.
Anglezarke . } (Three townships Heapey } combined)	£350	C. Smith.
Wheelton }		
Hoghton	£125	J. Hindle.
Mawdesley	£200	W. Christopher.
Whittle-le-Woods	£270	H. Shacklady.

In addition to the above we pay the Contractor for Mawdesley an extra £50 per annum for the emptying of cesspools.

In the townships of Coppull and Charnock Richard the scavenging is carried out by direct labour, at an approximate cost of £625.

The transport vehicle is a Karrier Motor and the labour employed consists of a foreman at £2' 10s. 0d. per week, a driver at £2 10s. 0d. and a labourer at £2 5s. 0d., supplemented by the hiring of an extra labourer at £2 5s. 0d. per week, at periodical intervals.

Next year our Scavenging will be costing us £2,557 paid to Contractors, £625 Direct Labour; £3,182 per annum.

SECTION VI

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

All premises are disinfected after Infectious Disease.

The definition of Infectious Disease is defined by the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889.

Such Diseases as Chicken Pox and Measles are only made notifiable when an epidemic occurs; in addition if there was an outbreak of Small Pox, Chicken Pox would at once be made notifiable, as the initial symptoms are somewhat similar.

The following Tables give the work of the Public Health Department under this Section.

HOUSES DISINFECTED.

TABLE A.
INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphth-ia	Typhoid	Remarks.
Anderton	7	Nil	Nil	Four cases were nursed at home.
Anglezarke	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Bretherton	1	Nil	Nil	This case was nursed at home.
Brindle	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Charnock Richard	5	1	Nil	
Clayton-le-Woods .	3	1	Nil	Two cases of Scarlet Fever were nursed at home.
Coppull	12	2	1	Two cases of Scarlet Fever were nursed at home. There was one Typhoid (suspect).
Croston	10	Nil	Nil	Three cases of Scarlet Fever were nursed at home.
Cuerden	3	Nil	Nil	
Eccleston	12	Nil	Nil	Three cases were nursed at home.
Euxton	3	Nil	Nil	
Heapey	1	1	Nil	
Heath Charnock ..	3	Nil	Nil	

Heskin	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Hoghton	Nil	1	Nil	
Mawdesley	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Rivington	1	Nil	Nil	
Ulnes Walton	5	Nil	Nil	One case of Scarlet Fever was nursed at home.
Wheelton	Nil	1	Nil	
Whittle-le-Woods .	2	Nil	Nil	
	—	—	—	
Totals	68	7	1	
	—	—	—	

TABLE B.
CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Township.	Cases	Reason for Disinfection.
Anderton	1	Removed to Sanatorium.
Clayton-le-Woods	2	Removal to Chorley. Removal to Sanatorium.
Coppull	1	Removal from District.
Eccleston	2	Removal from District. Removal to Sanatorium.
Euxton	1	Removal to Sanatorium.
Hoghton	1	
Whittle-le-Woods	2	Death. Removal to Sanatorium.
	—	
Total	10	
	—	

DISINFECTION OF SCHOOL.

Name of School.	Reason for Disinfection
Ulnes Walton Parish School.	This School was disin- fected whilst closed for holidays on account of the preva- lence of Scarlet Fever in the neigh- bourhood.

PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Number of specimens during the year:—

Blood	1
Sputum	27
Throat Swabs	10

SECTION VII. DISINFESTATION.

This deals with the extermination of bugs and in particular bed bugs, fleas, beetles, cockroaches and other pests.

In the case of old property Hydrogen Cyanide may be used but it requires very careful handling, as more than one authority have found to their cost.

Less dangerous is the use of Formalin and Sulphur Dioxide.

This being a rural district with no congestion of property we are only called upon very occasionally in respect to this matter.

During the year two houses infested with bugs were dealt with and we found the ordinary plumber's blow lamp very efficacious in their extermination.

SECTION VIII.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Factories.

Although we possess several factories the Provision of Sanitary Conveniences and Closet Accommodation of both sexes (Section 9) has to be dealt with by His Majesty's Inspector of Factories as Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, has not been adopted in this district.

The chief responsibility of our Council in respect to factories is to see that certain premises are provided with adequate means of escape in case of fire.

The factories in the Chorley Rural District are situated as follows:—

Township.	Factory
Anderton	Grimeford Mill (Weaving).
Brindle	Bournes Mill (Weaving).
Coppull	Coppull Ring Spinning.
Coppull	Hic Bibi Brickworks.
Coppull	Harrison's Brickworks.
Coppull	Turner and Halsall (Coach Building).
Charnock Richard	Blainscough (Brick Making).
Clayton-le-Woods ..	Swansey Mill (Weaving).
Croston	Croston Manufacturing Co. (Weaving).

Croston	Crompton's Brickworks.
Croston	Valson Co., Ltd. (Enamel Sanitary Fireclay Works).
Eccleston	Grove Mills (Weaving).
Eccleston	New Mill (Weaving).
Heapey	Rylands, Ltd. (Bleaching).
Heath Charnock ...	Lancashire Knitting Factory.
Hoghton	Lower Mill (Weaving).
Hoghton	Higher Mill (Weaving).
Ulnes Walton	Littlewood Brick and Tile Works.
Ulnes Walton	Mayor's Saw Mills.
Wheelton	Victoria Mills (Weaving).
Whittle-le-Woods ..	Kem Mills (Weaving).

In addition the following Bakehouses come under the definition of "Factories," viz.:—

Euxton.....	Rimmer's Bakery.
Whittle-le-Woods ..	Hill's Bakery.

Workshops.

In respect to Workshops and Work-Places the duties of a Local Authority are more onerous than those relating to factories.

Among other duties, inspections have to be made to see that these premises are kept in a sanitary condition and are not at any time overcrowded.

The Workshops and Work-Places in this district are about 80 in number and may be classified as follows:—

Bakehouses (including Factory Bakehouses).

Boot and Shoe Repairers.

Basket Makers.

Motor Repairers.

Smiths.

Milliners.

Wheelwrights.

Pill Manufactory.

Upholstery.

Tailors.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.
Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Work-Places.

Premises. (1)	Inspections. (2)	Number of	
		Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories	11	Nil	Nil
Workshops	40	10	Nil
Work-Places	29	5	Nil
Totals	80	15	Nil

Defects Found in Factories, Workshops and Work-Places.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Prosecu- tions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:				
Want of Cleanliness	5	5	Nil	Nil
Want of Ventilation	3	3	Nil	Nil
Want of Drainage	1	1	Nil	Nil
Other Nuisances	2	2	Nil	Nil
Insufficient Sanitary Accom- modation	1	1	Nil	Nil
Unsuitable or Defective Sani- tary Accommodation	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Accommodation not Separate for Sexes	2	2	Nil	Nil
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Act	Nil	Nil		
Total	15	14	Nil	Nil

SECTION IX.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

This is a special Act to regulate the hours of employment of persons under the age of eighteen years who are employed about the business of wholesale or retail shops. It also makes provision for the health and comfort of the workers.

Under this Act it is the duty of the Sanitary Authority of the district, as part of their duties under the Public Health Act, to enforce the provisions of this Act relating to Ventilation and Temperature of shops and to Sanitary Conveniences.

The remaining provisions of the Act are under the jurisdiction of the Lancashire County Council.

This year by special arrangement with the County Council our Authority have undertaken to make the inspections under that part of the Act for which they have to administer, viz., particulars of:

- (1) Number of young persons employed.
- (2) Hours of employment.
- (3) Records that have to be kept.
- (4) Interval for meals.
- (5) Half-Holiday.
- (6) Health of Workers in respect to (a) Lighting (b) Washing facilities (c) Facilities for meals.
- (7) Seating Accommodation.

During the year 135 inspections have been made and cautions issued in respect to:—

(a) Necessary Records not being kept.....	8
(b) Necessary Abstracts not displayed	8
(c) Sanitary Conveniences unsatisfactory ...	4
(d) Lack of Ventilation	1
(e) Lack of Washing facilities	1
	<hr/>
Total	22

SECTION X

PETROLEUM LICENCES.

The following are the particulars for the year 1937:—

The number of Licences issued to store Petroleum, 43.

The minimum amount of Petroleum stored under any one Licence, 100 gallons.

The maximum amount of Petroleum stored under any one Licence, 5,000 gallons.

In practically all cases the Petroleum is stored in Tanks with Pumps affixed.

SECTION XI.

GENERAL MATTERS.

Most of the work of the Public Health Department has been dealt with under one or other of the preceeding Sections, it therefore only remains to touch on a few matters that have not been included.

Royal Ordnance Factory, Euxton.

When the construction of the above Factory was commenced the Site, being Government property, was considered outside our jurisdiction.

For the convenience of the workmen employed, Sleeping Huts and Canteens began to be erected by the Contractors but there was no official supervision to see that the premises were conducted and maintained in a sanitary condition.

Owing to protests from this office to the Lancashire County Council and the Minister of Health it was finally arranged with the consent of Mr. Colquhoun, the Resident Engineer of H.M. Office of Works, that these sleeping huts and canteens should become subject to our supervision.

Since this has taken place these premises have been put in a sanitary condition and are periodically inspected.

The latest acquisition is the provision of incinerators for the cremation of rubbish.

Legislation.

This year your officials have had to devote a considerable time and study to become conversant with the new Housing Act, 1936, which came into force on the First of January, 1937, and the new Public Health Act, 1936, which came into force on the First of October, 1937.

This latter Act makes many sweeping changes and entirely alters the procedure in respect to certain provisions.

A useful Section in the new Housing Act is that allowing the Closing of a part of a dwelling where only a portions is unfit for human habitation.

Nuisances.

The miscellaneous nuisances dealt with have necessitated the serving of 230 informal notices and 14 Statutory notices.

The following Table shows some of the work accomplished under this Section during the year:—

Number of premises inspected ..	1,217
Number of nuisances discovered ..	318
Number of nuisances abated	302

Before concluding I must express appreciation of my Staff who have so ably assisted in the work of this department.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Members,
Your Obedient Servant,
HERBERT F. FROES,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

